

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 02757 210501Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
DODE-00 DOE-15 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-11 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7203
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USDOC WASHDC

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DEPARTMENT PASS DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

USDOC FOR BEWT

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, GE
SUBJECT: GDR PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY CLAIMED TO INCREASE
- YIELD OF LIGHT PETROLEUM PRODUCTS FROM CRUDE

1. DURING RECENT VISIT TO LEUNA CHEMICAL WORKS, AMBASSADOR WAS SHOWN A NEWLY-DEVELOPED VACUUM DISTILLATION UNIT, STILL UNDER CONSTRUCTION, WHICH GDR TECHNICIANS CLAIM WILL BE CAPABLE OF SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASING THE YIELD OF LIGHT PETROLEUM PRODUCTS IN THE PROCESSING OF CRUDE OIL.

2. DIRECTOR GENERAL ERICH MUELLER TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT THE YIELD OF LIGHT PETROLEUM PRODUCTS USING TECHNOLOGY NEWLY DEVELOPED AT LEUNA WILL BE AS HIGH AS 35 PERCENT OF CRUDE OIL INPUT, AS COMPARED TO YIELD LEVELS OF 26-28 PERCENT THAT CAN BE ATTAINED UNDER PRESENT TECHNOLOGY.

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PAGE 02 BERLIN 02757 210501Z

LEUNA OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT THE NEW PROCESS WILL SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE THE YIELD OF GASOLINE AND PETRO-CHEMICAL FEEDSTOCKS WHILE REDUCING THE RELATIVE PRODUCTION OF FUEL OIL. USING THE NEW TECHNOLOGY, LEUNA HOPES EVENTUALLY TO DERIVE THE SAME QUANTITY OF LIGHT PETROLEUM PRODUCTS FROM FIVE MILLION TONS OF PETROLEUM AS COULD BE PRODUCED FROM EIGHT MILLION TONS OF PETROLEUM

UNDER PRESENT TECHNOLOGY.

3. DIRECTOR GENERAL MUELLER ALSO INFORMED THE AMBASSADOR THAT DR. WOLFGANG NETTE OF THE LEUNA WORKS HAD JUST RECEIVED A PATENT ON THE NEW PROCESS, AND INDICATED A GENERAL INTEREST IN DEVELOPING BUSINESS RELATIONS WITH U.S. CONCERNS. MUELLER EXPRESSED INTEREST IN RECEIVING ARTICLES ON CHEMISTRY FROM SCHOLARLY U.S. CHEMICAL JOURNALS, WHICH WE ARE SEEKING TO OBTAIN THROUGH ICA.

4. COMMENT: IN ABSENCE OF A SCIENCE ATTACHE, EMBASSY IS NOT ABLE TO EVALUATE LEUNA'S CLAIM FROM A TECHNICAL STAND-POINT AND WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION OR COMMENTS DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO PROVIDE. BOLEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, PRODUCTION, VISITS, AMBASSADORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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